



ABORTIVE ATTEMPT TO CHANGE THE ISSUE IN TENNESSEE.

"NO JOCKEYING!"

A letter from General Jackson in reference to certain passages in the great speech of Mr. Clay at the Nashville Convention, and the reply of the illustrious Kentucky Senator thereto, will be found in our columns this morning. The latter is a most admirable paper, and no fair-minded man can read it, without acknowledging the contrast its gentleness and its tranquil dignity, and its entire consecutive attack on the Ex-President.

The object of the Van Buren managers in Tennessee in getting General Jackson to write this letter is abundantly obvious. It was to create a new controversy between General Jackson and Henry Clay, and thus divert the attention of the people of that State from the issue between Martin Van Buren and Wm. Henry Harrison. There was nothing personal in Mr. Clay's remarks, calculated to ruffle the equanimity of General Jackson. The editor of the Nashville Banner says: "As to the speech—we heard every word of it, and feel quite sure, that no unprejudiced man who was present will refuse to accord to the distinguished author all praise for the moderation of tone, its guarded phrasing and especially the very delicate and appropriate manner in which Mr. Clay alluded to his relations with General Jackson. He was particular in stating in the commencement of his remarks, that he came here only in compliance with the request of the Ladies of Nashville—that he had previously declined numerous applications of similar character from gentlemen of this place—and that one great objection he had to coming, was an apprehension that his visit at this particular juncture might be supposed by some to have been made in a spirit of defiance or exultation, with regard to the distinguished tenant of the Hermitage—a supposition, he said, which would do him very great injustice, as no such feeling had a place in his bosom."

The same paper contains the following paragraph, which, we doubt not, gives a full explanation of the designs with which the ex-President wrote the letter. We add our protest against any change of nags on the Tennessee course:

"He has deliberately worked himself into a rage generally, for the purpose of putting Van behind him, as he did at the race track, and running the race himself in Tennessee—and if he can, with Mr. Clay. We protest against any change of nags now, that the entries have been made. The Kinderhook pony must rely upon his own heels and bottom. 'Old Truxton' cannot be permitted to run the race for his pet, however much he may desire it. Such a thing would be against all the rules and practice of the turf. Clear the track, then, for Harrison and Van Buren. Let us have a fair race and no interference—no jockeying—and, our word for it, Old Tip will distance his competitor."

NEW HONORS FOR RHODE ISLAND.

The true friends of the constitution and the country in this gallant little State, did so well at the spring election that the country so wished they might retain their majority. But there, as every where throughout the Union, the march of the Harrison cause is onward. The majority for the opponents of the administration is greatly increased on the popular vote.

The Providence Journal gives the names of Representatives elected from all the counties in that State, excepting five—from which it appears that 49 Whigs have been elected, and 25 Administration men—which, with 11 majority in the Senate, makes a majority of 37 on joint ballot.

VERMONT ELECTION.

The annual election in Vermont for State officers takes place this day. At the same time five members of Congress are to be chosen. The candidates for Governor are, Silas H. Jenning, the present incumbent, Whig, and Paul Dillingham, Jr., Loco Foco. Last year the Whig majority for Governor was 2351. The Congressmen are chosen by districts, and in the present House two of the five are Loco Focos. In the first district Hilland Hall, Whig, is a candidate for re-election, and will doubtless succeed. Daniel Kellogg is the Loco Foco candidate.

In the second district William Slade, the present member, is a candidate for re-election. His opponent is Charles Linsley. Mr. Slade is sure of a re-election. In the third district Horace Everett, the present member, is the Whig candidate, and will easily beat his opponent Truman B. Ransom.

In the fourth district, 1838, John Smith, the present Loco Foco member, was elected, on account of a division in the Whig ranks. On the first trial there was no choice, the Whigs having two candidates. At the second trial there was no effort made on the part of the Whigs. A single candidate was agreed upon, but he declined only a few days before the election, when there was no time to nominate another. The Whig vote was consequently small, and was principally given to Mr. Allen. This year the Whigs are united on one candidate, Augustus Young. Mr. Smith is the Loco Foco candidate—the result is doubtful. The district comprises the five northwestern counties, and was the scene of the "Patriot movements" in 1836-7. In 1838, Smith was supported by the "Patriots," and to their influence probably owed his election. Whether the Loco Focos will derive any aid from them now, we have not the means of knowing; but we see that great pains are taken to circulate McKenney's letter to his old associates in the frontier counties of Vermont, and in New York also.

The fifth district is now represented by Isaac Fletcher, Loco, who is a candidate for re-election. The Whig candidate is John Mattocks. The counties comprising this district, gave Harrison about 1,000 majority in 1836.

The last Legislature was Whig in both branches.

MAINE ELECTION.—The election takes place September 14th. Besides State officers and members of the Legislature, eight members of Congress are to be chosen. The nominees thus far announced, are as follows:

Districts	Whigs.	Loco Focos.
1.	Daniel Goodenow,	Nathan Clifford,
2.	Benjamin Randall,	Albert Smith,
3.	George Evans,	John Hubbard,
4.	Zadoc Lang,	N. S. Littlefield,
5.	A. S. Kingsberry,	Alfred Marshall,
6.	Joseph C. Noyes,	Justus A. Lowell,
		Hannibal Hamlin.

The delegation from Maine in the present Congress comprises two Whigs and six Van Buren men.

It is not true, as stated in some of the papers, that Messrs Brown and Strange's resignation has been returned to them.

EXECUTIVE USURPATION.

On the 31st of July last, public attention was called to the fact, that "Congress refused to add fifteen hundred men to the standing army in Florida. This was no sooner done than Mr. Poinsett ordered 1500 men into the Florida service, either upon his own, or Mr. Van Buren's responsibility, and had given the command of the troops to Gen. Read, in connection with the Governor of that Territory." It was asked, what right had Mr. Poinsett to do this, or where did he procure the means? It was maintained that if he possessed this right, he might order out his 200,000 men, appoint his officers, distribute pay amongst them, and, like Cromwell, set himself up to be the "protector of the Empire." The public were reminded that, in the course of a long series of usurpations, the Executive Department had swallowed up all the powers of the Government, including banking, legislating, carrying on war, &c., and thus there was no further use for Congress. Among the first effects of this last act of Executive usurpation, to which we directed the notice of our readers, was the assembling, by the Governor, of a large number of hired soldiery in the streets of Tallahassee, to overawe the citizens, under pretence of preserving the public peace, but, in reality, to intimidate a political meeting. How gloriously this creature of the Executive was driven by the justly indignant Tallahasseans from the "plans" of a substitution of the bayonet for the laws, we have already shown.

The Globe, with characteristic impudence and disregard of the truth, denies the charge above mentioned, and gives the following account of the fact:

"There were 1000 militia raised, and in service in Florida, for the defence of the settlement. They were called out in the usual manner, under the authority vested in the Executive by the Constitution. Finding this force not sufficient, and that murders continued to be perpetrated, the War Department called upon the Governor of Florida to increase it to 1500 men, to divide it into two regiments, and place the whole under the command of Brigadier-General Read, of the Florida militia. All this would have been done if Congress had acted on the measure proposed by the War Department, and granted two or three battalions of light troops, to be enlisted for the defence of the war, and to be armed, equipped, and drilled, with a view to prepare them to take the field against the Indians of Florida."

Now, these blundering paragraphs contain a series of mistakes—and worse than mistakes. The assertions of the Madisonian no more referred to the "1,000 militia" that "were" raised, than to the blood-hounds "in service."

The "ignorant editor" of the Globe ought to be aware that the new brigade, with United States officers, is to be commanded by General Read, not "Read."

Robert Raymond Reid, though, as Governor of the Territory, Commander-in-Chief, was, apparently, deemed a man of peace, and only equal to the drilling of "the party." The committee on behalf of the citizens of Tallahassee, however, in their remonstrance of the 10th instant, assure Mr. VAN BUREN that, "towards the People he assumes a belligerent attitude, employing the troops in parading around his house and through the streets, to the terror of our peaceable citizens, misapplying the time of the military, and squandering the means of the Government, not for the defence of the citizens, but for the purposes of MISILE and GEN. READ is a younger man, and it is believed of purer patriotism, than it will permit him to withdraw the troops he is now raising, from those frontiers exposed to a real and terrific foe, to protect the Governor in the bosom of a peaceable community from idle and childish fears."

The blundering of the Globe sustains the assertion of the Madisonian, relative to the "increase." As to the rest of the official's silly twaddle, it would be a waste of time to notice it.

The "assertions" so insolently denied, are repeated, and the Globe is challenged to produce the constitutional order of the President for this new species of brigade of 1500 men furnished with officers of the regular staff.

Will the Government editor say where the "means" are procured? What estimates were furnished for any appropriation for such an object? What act of Congress authorized it?

It is to the mode and manner of this "executive usurpation," that the Madisonian invoked the attention of the people. It has been particular, concise, and correct in its "assertions," as will abundantly appear on the production of the record.

WHEN YOU HAVE PICKED A POCKET, CRY "STOP THIEF!"

"Wagon loads of electioneering pamphlets are carried from the Whig printing offices to the Capitol, for the mere purpose of being enveloped in paper purchased for the use of the House."—Globe.

Of the 589,000 packages, 23,776 consisting of speeches, Globes, &c. have been sent (by wagons we presume) from the Globe office to the Capitol, and there since the adjournment enveloped by paper purchased for the use of the House, and franked and sent by mail to the federal loco foco members! And now in the language of the pure, immaculate Globe, "is not this the impudent conversion of public property to private uses?"

Oh! oh! how dreadful! Now, Amos, if you say nothing more about the wreck of "wrapping paper" and the crash of "twine," we will use our best efforts to prevent the naughty Whigs from again frightening your innocent babies.

"Wagon loads of electioneering pamphlets are carried from the Whig printing offices to the Capitol."—Globe.

The falsehood here consists in the attempt to induce a belief that no electioneering pamphlets have been sent from the Globe office to the folding room, and then enveloped in the public paper by the folders in the employ of the Government. Now for the fact. Since the adjournment of Congress 21,000 Loco Foco speeches, Globes, &c., have been thus sent and enveloped.

"How this Government is given to lying." Aye, and to humbuggery, too.

"Never before have members of Congress sent abroad, for electioneering purposes, pamphlets, speeches, or publications of any kind, which were not connected with the proceedings of Congress."—Globe.

Of the 589,000 volumes of lying trash franked by the Loco Foco members of Congress, 65,670 were Globes, Extra Globes, prospectuses of Globes, Kendall's address, and Kendall's letter to Bots, with a slight sprinkling of the Crisis and Rough Hower by way of seasoning."

Fifteen thousand eight hundred and thirty were proceedings of the Baltimore Convention, and of the Albany Caucus, and Life of Van Buren.

All of which are of course "connected with the proceedings of Congress."

MR. WEBSTER AT SARATOGA.

Story of Seth Patterson.

Mr. WEBSTER, who was engaged in the great case of the Illinois lands, before the New York Court of Errors now sitting at Saratoga, addressed an assemblage of more than ten thousand people in the Pine Grove, near the celebrated Congress Spring. Such an audience, from every part of this Union, could not be gathered on any other spot. Many of those whom the people delight to honor were there. Mr. Webster had only made a fair commencement of his speech, when a crash was heard, and the whole platform, with about fifteen or twenty people, including the speaker, disappeared from our view. All had fallen among the broken lumber, and great anxiety was manifested until it was announced that no bones were broken, and no person seriously injured. Mr. Webster at length made his reappearance on a wagon, and, after a sportive allusion to the disaster, resumed his speech; which is represented as one of his happiest efforts.

The following story of Seth Patterson was very felicitously given as an illustration of the erroneous and delusive maxims of the administration:

"Seth was a neighbor of Mr. W., a hardy Yankee, of amiable habits, half farmer and half fisherman, with plenty of the 'poor man's blessings,' and a good share of the comforts which his daily industry gave them. As he and Mr. W. were alone in a little boat, returning from fishing, and while he was pulling at the oars, he would sometimes give his own conceptions of national policy. He had heard of the new notion among political men, that low prices were as good for poor men as high, provided the necessities of life were reduced in a proportionate degree; and was asked what he thought of these changes."

He said—"If every thing which the poor man wants could be reduced in exact proportion to the reduction of his wages, and remain so, he would not suffer, and that is my labor—I have many things to sell, and I find the reduction does not reach all the articles which I want. Flour and meat may be reduced, but tea, coffee, sugar, spices, any many other articles, are just the same as they were before the reduction of the wages of labor. My interest, therefore, induces me to be in favor of high wages."

"This," said Mr. Webster, "is practical wisdom, which is far better than the theories of politicians." The reasoning of Seth Patterson comprises the whole question in the best possible form."

"Monstrous abuses"—Globe.
"Our sufferings are intolerable."—M. Van Buren.

By an accurate account kept at the folding room at the Capitol, it appears that, during the session of Congress, and since, up to this period, the Federal Loco Foco Destructives in Congress have sent off, under their franks, and the frank of the Clerk of the House, speeches, Globes, Extra Globes, prospectuses of Globes, Kendall's address, Kendall's letter to Bots, Crisis, Rough Hewers, Life of Van Buren, proceedings of the Baltimore Loco Foco Convention, proceedings and address of the New York Legislature, Loco Foco Caucus, &c. &c., to the amount of \$89,000.

And these impudent hypocrites talk of the abuse of the frank, and of the use of "wrapping paper and twine!"

KENDALISM—VIOLATION OF SEALS.

"Numerous packets sent out from this city, with the forged signature and frank of John C. Clark, were returned to the General Post Office. Some of them were exhibited to Mr. Clark, who neither admitted or denied that his name was a forgery."—Globe.

The main allegation is false. Mr. Clark has not been shown any "forged signature and frank," by any person, or at any place; neither does he believe that any "forged signature and frank" of his exists. Mr. Clark did see at the Department two packages sent by him to two individuals in the country, which had been broken open and violated, either by some deputy postmaster, or by some one in the General Post Office. But he saw no forgery of his frank; neither can the Department produce one. Has the Postmaster General taken any measures to bring to punishment the violators of those packages? Or did he violate them himself?

RIP VAN WINKLE STILL WIDE AWAKE!

Extract of a letter, dated ASHEBORO, N. C., Aug. 24, 1840.

You must add Randolph to your list of the strongest Whig counties in North Carolina, as we are as true as steel, and will give Harrison a stronger lift than we gave to Morehead, whose majority in Randolph was 947! Look out for a real hurricane for Harrison in this State next November. W.

NEW YORK. A letter from a most distinguished gentleman residing on the banks of the Hudson, says: "We are drawing a strong team in this State, we mean to bury the loco foco so deep that they will never rise again."

"THE OLD DOMINION."

LOVINGSTON, Aug. 26, 1840.

If there was a lingering doubt behind as to the result of the Presidential election, the North Carolina victory has removed it. You may rest assured that Virginia will fully redeem all that is expected of her in November, and proclaim in a voice of thunder that Republicanism is not wrapped up in the person of Martin Van Buren, and that his policy and principles are not in accordance with the great principles avowed by the immortal resolutions of '98-'99. The Opposition continue to gain ground daily."

Senor D. Pedro Fernandez del Castillo, Senor D. Joaquin Velazquez de Leon, Commissioners on the part of Mexico, under the convention on the part of Mexico, of the 11th of April, 1839, together with Senor D. Lucas de Palacio y Magarola, their Secretary, were presented to the President of the United States by the Secretary of State on the 14th instant.

COMMUNICATED.

POLITICAL SIGNS AND WONDERS.

DURING THE current year, the following States have held their elections—New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Virginia, Alabama, Louisiana, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Missouri. We present below the results of these elections in comparison with those of 1836 in the same States and we think every candid friend of this Administration must admit the probabilities to be very strong, that as they have gone in the recent elections, so they will go in November next:

	1836.	W. V. B.	1840.	W. V. B.
New Hampshire,	—	7	—	7
Connecticut,	—	8	—	8
Rhode Island,	—	1	—	4
Virginia,	—	23	—	3
Louisiana,	—	3	—	5
Alabama,	—	7	—	7
Indiana,	9	—	9	—
Kentucky,	15	—	15	—
North Carolina,	—	15	—	15
Missouri,	—	4	—	4
	24	78	79	23

August 26th, 1840.

A Sign in Massachusetts.—The Gloucester Telegraph of late date, publishes a long list of seceders from Van Burenism in that town, and the editor states that there are many others, both in Gloucester and Rockport, who have heretofore supported the Administration, but who will, in future, go for Harrison and Reform.

There is to be a grand celebration at Buffalo, (New York,) of the anniversary of the victory of the Thames, achieved by the American army under Gen. Harrison, on the 5th of October, 1813.

Return of Mr. Muhlenberg.—We learn from the Reading (Pa.) Democrat, that Mr. Muhlenberg, American Minister, at the Court of Vienna, is expected to take the earliest leave of the Emperor of Austria, about the first of September, preparatory to his departure for the west of Europe, whence he will leave for the United States, early in the fall.

TO THE WHIGS AND CONSERVATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ROOM, WASHINGTON, August 25, 1840.

The splendid election results just announced from the States of North Carolina, Kentucky and Indiana, gladden the heart of the patriot, and stimulate him to greater efforts in the service of his country. In these States, the enemies of the Constitution and of the prosperity of the Republic are annihilated. The Destructives are panic-stricken—turn which way they may, their affrighted vision is startled with the "hand-writing on the wall." In Alabama, they have barely escaped defeat. Missouri is "coming to the rescue." With forced but feeble shouts, they exult over Illinois, and rejoice that they have been able—to hold their own.

Since the nomination of Gen. Harrison, the States of Connecticut, Rhode Island, Virginia, Louisiana, and North Carolina, all of which voted for Martin Van Buren in 1836, have proclaimed in no equivocal language, their allegiance to the country and its Constitution.

The information which we have received, and which we continue to receive, from the States of Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, Ohio, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Tennessee, and Georgia is well calculated to inspire us with fresh confidence in the intelligence and patriotism of the people, and with the conviction that their slumbering vengeance is awakened into life and action, ready to lay hold of the pillars of the temple, which corruption has raised on the ruins of the Constitution and welfare of the nation, and crush beneath its fragments its power-gratifying and infatuated architects.

Excessive confidence in our own strength is the only danger to be apprehended. Let us not rest in fancied security. Let us not repose on our laurels so freshly and gallantly won, but rush into the battlefield in quest of new achievements. The enemy is rich in the means of corruption, and they will use them with no sparing hand. A mercenary legion of one hundred thousand office-holders, who fight for their salaries and their bread, are arrayed against you. The money of the people, now in the hands of the President by his Sub-treasurers, will tickle the palms of the purchasable. A ribald and stipendiary press, sustained by governmental patronage, will scatter its vile trash among you. To meet successfully these fearful odds against you, requires vigorous and untiring exertions. Let us not fear that our majorities will be too overwhelming.

The Administration and the principles on which it acts should not only be prostrated, but prostrated effectually and forever. It should pass to its long account amid the exultations of immense majorities, and without the hope of a resurrection. The rebuke allotted to be administered should not only be severe, but astounding. It is due to the constitution—to the country—to retributive justice, and to posterity, that the political crimes of this administration should be marked with a reprobation deep as your sufferings, and broad as the Union. The "hic jacet" which the people are about to write on its tomb should be in capitals, bold and prominent as are its delinquencies from duty. Thus written, it will stand through future ages as a political "memento mori" to any person who, "dressed in a little brief authority," shall play the tyrant, forgetful of the power that made him.

Is there a patriot in the land whose bosom does not swell with pride and exultation at the brilliant prosperity now dawning on his desecrated country? On the 4th of March next history, with iron pen, will inscribe on her marble tablets, on this day, by the almost unanimous voice of a confiding, abused, and intelligent people, was banished from the Capitol the first American Nero, who laughed at the calamities with which he had scourged his countrymen, mocked at the sufferings which he had created, and tauntingly told them "that they looked to Government for too much."

Then will the country shake off the shackles with which folly and madness had bound her young and vigorous limbs, rise with new strength, and press onward to her high destiny. And who among you will not, on that auspicious day, join the joyous song, and with honest pride and patriotic exultation, mingle your voice with the shouts of millions, and exclaim, "I too fought at the battle of Waterloo." To all such have up to this period stood as idle spectators of this fierce conflict now being waged between the people and the office-holders, let us say, "delay no longer. Inaction now is dangerous to the Republic. Rally on the side of your country, and prove your love to her institutions."

We use no hyperbole when we say that she is but one remove from a practical monarchy? Give to Mr. Van Buren a standing army of 300,000 men, and your liberties are at an end. Already is he in the possession of the entire revenues of the country. The national purse is at his unlicensed control. Think you that he will abandon his wild schemes of an overwrought ambition? Think you that he will cease to urge upon the consideration of Congress the monstrous project of an immense standing army? Think you that there is in Congress independence sufficient to deny him any request? No, no—Lay not that flattering unctious to your souls. Who could have been found on the first day of January, 1837, bold enough to have projected that measure, which had been denounced by nearly the unanimous voice of the people, "disorganizing and revolutionary," as subversive of the principles of the Government from its earliest history, "as enlarging to an alarming extent the boundaries of Executive power," would at this time have been the law of the land? But such is the melancholy fact! The National Legislature furnishes you with no protection, no guaranty against the exactions of Executive power. It is the fundamental law of "the party" that the President "can do no wrong." His will is the law of "the party," both in and out of Congress, and woe to the man who dares to oppose it. He is denounced as a traitor and renegade.

The sleek hounds of the Executive, thirsty for blood, are unleashed from their kennels, and with eager scent pursue the object of their hate. They soon banquet on the mutilated carcass; with crimsoned muzzles they return to their master, giving gratifying evidences that his orders have been faithfully executed, and are again kept in reserve for some fresh victim of Executive vengeance. Under this reign of terror and proscription place no dependence on Congress. It is no longer a shield between the rights of the people and the usurpation of the President. It caters for Executive gratification, and panders to his cravings for power. The same men who, but a short time since, spoke of a sub-Treasury bill with horror, and who now condemn the standing army project with apparent sincerity, will, at the bidding of the President, adopt the latter with as much unanimity as they enacted the former.

The same servile partizan majority who here gave him the "purse," who at his nod disfranchised, blindly disfranchised a sovereign State without reading him a syllable of the evidence, will not hesitate to arm him with the "sword" also.

There is but one step between the President and despotic power. Lose no time in throwing yourselves between them. If you value your liberties, achieved by the blood of your fathers—if you would hand them over unpaired to your children, hesitate no longer, but join the army of patriots marching to victory under the banner of the constitution, and of "Harrison and Reform."

The history of the last six months admonishes us to warn you against the falsehoods and calumnies of the administration press. Within that period, you have been told that General Harrison was a "weak, imbecile old man in his dotage." The ink with which the slander was penned, was scarcely dry when we heard of him at Fort Meigs, one of the scenes of his glory, addressing in the full voice of vigorous manhood, and with the fervor of youth, an immense multitude on the great subjects which so deeply agitate the public mind, and vindicating his fair fame from the aspersions which malignity has attempted to cast upon it. More recently has he visited Fort Greenville, and again, with his usual ability and eloquence, addressed a large concourse of his fellow-citizens. Soon, perchance, the feeble libellers of the Executive organs may announce that he is the victim of disease, and in the last stage of mortality; and attempt to prove it, too, by the affidavits of some of their vile retainers. Within that period you have also been told that he was in the custody of "keepers," "imprisoned in an 'iron cage.'" Be not surprised if you should ere long be informed by the same authority that he had become the inmate of a mad-house, and that it should be vouched for by the same "respectable" testimony. Allow us, then, to warn you against yielding the slightest belief to the thousand slanders with which the mendacious press at the Capital, and its partizan adjuncts throughout the country, will abound from this time to the close of the elections. Already have they falsified the records of the past, committed forgeries, and scattered their libels broadcast over the land.

Permit us also to call your serious consideration to the importance of an efficient organization. Hitherto you have been beaten more by the force of the superior drill and discipline of your opponents, than by numerical strength; or rather, their perfect organization has enabled them to bring all their forces into the field against you. That organization in the Northern States especially, extends to the appointment of committees in all the school districts in the several towns. Let us take lessons in this respect from the enemy. For the first time we now present an unbroken and undivided front, writing under a common suffering, and animated by a common hope. Let every friend of his country's welfare be at his post, and in a few short weeks he will witness the total overthrow of the author of her calamity.

R. GARLAND, Chairman Committee.
J. C. CLARK, Secy. GEN. JACKSON IN THE FIELD!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE UNION.
SIR: Being informed that the Hon. HENRY CLAY, of Kentucky, in his public speech at Nashville, yesterday, alleged that I had appointed the Hon. Edward Livingston, Secretary of State, when he was a defaulter, and knowing him to be one, I feel that I am justified in declaring the charge to be false. It is known to all the country that the nominations made by the President to the Senate are referred to appropriate committees of that body, whose duty it is to inquire into the character of the nominees, and that if there is any evidence of default, or any disqualifying circumstance existing against them, a rejection of the nomination follows. Mr. Livingston was a member of the Senate, from the State of Louisiana, when he was nominated by me. Can Mr. Clay say that he opposed the confirmation of his nomination because he was a defaulter? If so, the journal of the Senate will answer. But his confirmation by the Senate is conclusive proof that no such objection, if made, was sustained, and I am satisfied that such a charge against him could not have been substantiated.

I am also informed that Mr. Clay charged me with appointing Samuel Swartwout collector of the port of New York, knowing that he had been an associate of Aaron Burr. To this charge it is proper to say that I knew of Mr. Swartwout's connection with Aaron Burr precisely as I did that of Mr. Clay himself, who, if the history of the times did not do me great injustice, was far from avoiding an association with Burr when he was at the town of Lexington, in Kentucky. Yet Mr. Clay was appointed Secretary of State, and I may say confidently with recommendations for character and fitness not more favorable than those produced to me by the citizens of New York in behalf of Mr. Swartwout. Mr. Clay, too, at the time of his own appointment to that high office, it will be recollected, was directly charged throughout the Union with having bargained for, and by none was this charge more earnestly made than by his present associates in Tennessee, Messrs. Bell and Foster.

Under such circumstances, how contemptible does this demagogic appeal when he descends from his high place in the Senate, and roams over the country retailing slanders against the living and the dead.

ANDREW JACKSON.
HERMITAGE, Aug. 18, 1840.

TO THE PUBLIC.
Your surprise, I am quite sure, will be as great as mine was, on the perusal of a note, signed Andrew Jackson, addressed to the editor of the Nashville Union, and bearing date on the 18th instant.

The circumstances of my present visit to Nashville are well known here, and I declined repeated invitations to attend the Convention held on the 17th instant, and finally yielded to an unusual appeal, with which I was honored, and which it would be difficult for any man to resist.

I was called upon to address the Convention. In view of terms of respect and for his private services of praise, I spoke of the distinguished individual who is the occasion of this note, all who heard me can testify.

Among the subjects which I discussed was that of the degeneracy in public virtue, and especially the delinquency and infidelity in public officers, of which within the last few years we have had sad and striking evidence. In assigning causes for this deplorable state of things, I stated, as among them, the subversion of the rule laid down by Mr. Jefferson, of honesty, capacity, and fidelity to the Constitution, and the substitution for it of one founded on devotion and subservience, not to the country, but to the chief of a party, and to the personal appointment of office to one connected with himself as being only in possession of their legitimate share of the spoils of victory, instead of feeling bound by the obligations of a sacred trust confided for the benefit of the People. In respect to defaulters, I referred to the case of Mr. Livingston, of whose attainments as a public man I do not more constantly speak, and, in my feelings, I spoke in the highest terms. He was one of the earliest and one of the greatest defaulters. His case occurred under Mr. Jefferson's administration. The records both of the Executive and Judicial Departments established his default. He remained a defaulter about a quarter of a century, if not more. How he finally liquidated the balance against him, and when, I do not certainly know, but I believe it was by property, and under the first term of General Jackson. But whenever and however it was, a tardy payment or composition of the debt could not, and did not, expunge the fact of his original default.

In arguing the case to effect, I contended that the appointment of Mr. Livingston was a pernicious precedent; that it was a virtual proclamation to all who were or might be defaulters, that their infidelity in a public trust constituted no insuperable barrier to a promotion to one of the highest offices in the Government. I did not attribute to General Jackson a knowledge of the default. I went even so far as to say that he might not have reflected upon the consequences of the appointment of an individual so situated. I must now say that, until General Jackson otherwise asserts, I am constrained to believe that he could not have been ignorant of a fact so conspicuous in the annals of our country, as that of the default of Edward Livingston, Esq., as Attorney of the United States in the District of New York, during the administration of Mr. Jefferson, to the amount of about \$100,000.

It was in the train of the same thought and argument that I alluded to the appointment of Mr. Swartwout to the office of Collector of the most important port in the United States, as one of most unfortunate and injurious examples. His participation in the schemes of Colonel Burr was a fact of such universal notoriety that I supposed, and yet suppose, that no man the least conversant with the history of the country could be ignorant of it. But it was not upon Gen. Jackson's knowledge of that fact, it was upon the fact itself that I dwelt.

It is now said that the appointment of Mr. Swartwout was recommended by citizens of New York. I know nothing of these recommendations. Whether they were cause or effect, whether they were gotten up to produce or to give color and cover to the appointment, previous determined, he made, and secret history only could disclose. The appointment occasioned general surprise among the friends and foes of the Administration at the time, and the sequel demonstrates how untrue it was.